GAUDEO

John Carter Brown.

BOUND BY HAYDAM

A Brief Description OF NEW-YORK:

Formerly Called

New-Netherlands,

With the Places thereunto Adjoyning.

Together with the

Manner of its Scituation, Fertility of the Soyle, Healthfulneſs of the Climate, and the Commodities thence produced.

ALSO

Some Directions and Advice to ſuch as ſhall go thither: An Account of what Commodities they ſhall take with them; The Profit and Pleaſure that may accrew to them thereby.

LIKEWISE

A Brief RELATION of the Cuſtoms of the *Indians* there.

By *DANIEL DENTON.*

LONDON

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RPJCB

TO THE Reader.

JOHN CARTER BROWN

Reader,

I Have here thorough the Instigation of divers Persons in *England*, and elsewhere, presented you with a Brief but true Relation of a known unknown part of *America*. The known part which is either inhabited, or lieth near the Sea, I have described to you, and have writ nothing, but what I have been an eye-witness to all or the greatest part of it: Neither can I safely say, was I willing to exceed, but was rather willing the place it self should exceed my Commendation, which *I* question not but will be owned by those that shall travel

thither: For the unknown part, which is either ſome places lying to the Northward yet undiſcovered by any *Engliſh*, or the Bowels of the earth not yet opened, though the Natives tell us of Glittering Stones, Diamonds, or Pearl in the one, and the *Dutch* hath boaſted of Gold and Silver in the other; yet I ſhall not feed your expectation with any thing of that nature; but leave it till a better diſcovery ſhall make way for ſuch a Relation. In the mean time accept of this from him who deſireth to deal impartially with every one,

DANIEL DENTON.

A Brief Relation OF NEW YORK,

With the Places thereunto Adjoyning, formerly called

THE NEW NETHERLANDS, &c.

THat Tract of Land formerly called *The New Netherlands*, doth Contain all that Land which lieth in the North-parts of *America*, betwixt *New-England* and *Mary-Land* in *Virginia*, the length of which Northward into the Country, as it hath not been fully discovered, so it is not certainly known The bredth of it is about two hundred miles: The principal Rivers within this Tract, are *Hudsons* River, *Raritan*-River, and *Delewerbay*-River. The chief Islands are the *Manahatans*-Island, *Long*-Island, and *Staten*-Island.

And

And first to begin with the *Manahatans* Island, so called by the *Indians*, it lieth within land betwixt the degrees of 41. and 42. of North-latitude, and is about 14 miles long, and two broad. It is bounded with *Long*-Island on the South, with *Staten*-Island on the West, on the North with the Main Land: And with *Conecticut* Colony on the East-side of it; only a part of the Main Land belonging to *New-York* Colony, where several Towns and Villages are setled, being about thirty miles in bredth, doth intercept the *Manahatans* Island, and the Colony of *Conecticut* before mentioned.

New-York is setled upon the West-end of the aforesaid Island, having that small arm of the Sea, which divides it from *Long*-Island on the South side of it, which runs away Eastward to *New-England*, and is Navigable, though dangerous. For about ten miles from *New-York* is a place called *Hell-Gate*, which being a narrow passage, there runneth a violent stream both upon flood and ebb, and in the middle lieth some Islands of Rocks, which the Current sets so violently upon, that it threatens present shipwrack; and upon the Flood is a large Whirlpool, which continually sends forth a hideous roaring, enough to affright any stranger from passing further, and to wait for some *Charon* to conduct him thorough; yet to those that are well acquainted little or no danger; yet a place of great defence against any enemy coming in that way, which a small Fortification would absolutely prevent, and necessitate them to come in at the West end of *Long*-Island by *Sandy Hook* where *Nutten*-Island doth force them within Command of the Fort at *New-York*, which is one of the best Pieces of Defence in the North-parts of *America*.

New

New York is built most of Brick and Stone, and covered with red and black Tile, and the Land being high, it gives at a distance a pleasing Aspect to the spectators. The Inhabitants consist most of *English* and *Dutch*, and have a considerable Trade with the *Indians*, for *Bevers*, *Otter*, *Raccoon* skins, with other Furrs; As also for *Bear*, *Deer*, and *Elke* skins; and are supplied with Venison and Fowl in the Winter, and Fish in the Summer by the *Indians*, which they buy at an easie rate; And having the Countrey round about them, they are continually furnished with all such provisions as is needful for the life of man; not only by the *English* and *Dutch* within their own, but likewise by the Adjacent Colonies.

The Commodities vented from thence is Furs and Skins before-mentioned; As likewise *Tobacco* made within the Colony, as good as is usually made in *Mary-land*: Also *Horses*, *Beef*, *Pork*, *Oyl*, *Pease*, *Wheat*, and the like.

Long-Island, the West-end of which lies Southward of *New-York*, runs Eastward above one hundred miles, and is in some places eight, in some twelve, in some fourteen miles broad; it is inhabited from one end to the other. On the West-end is four or five *Dutch* Towns, the rest being all *English* to the number of twelve, besides Villages and Farm houses. The Island is most of it of a very good soyle, and very natural for all sorts of *English* Grain; which they sowe and have very good increase of, besides all other Fruits and Herbs common in *England*, as also *Tobacco*, *Hemp*, *Flax*, *Pumpkies*, *Melons*, &c.

The Fruits natural to the Island, are *Mulberries*,

Posimons, *Grapes* great and small, *Huckelberries*, *Cramberries*, *Plums* of several sorts, *Rosberries* and *Strawberries*, of which last is such abundance in *June*, that the Fields and Woods are died red: Which the Countrey-people perceiving, instantly arm themselves with bottles of Wine, Cream, and Sugar, and instead of a Coat of Male, every one takes a Female upon his Horse behind him, and so rushing violently into the fields, never leave till they have disrob'd them of their red colours, and turned them into the old habit.

The greatest part of the Island is very full of Timber, as Oaks white and red, Walnut-trees, Chesnut-trees, which yield store of Mast for Swine, and are often therewith sufficiently fatted with Oat-Corn: as also Maples, Cedars, Saxifrage, Beach, Birch, Holly, Hazel, with many sorts more.

The Herbs which the Countrey naturally afford, are Purslain, white Orage, Egrimony, Violets, Penniroyal, Alicampane, besides Saxaparilla very common, with many more. Yea, in *May* you shall see the Woods and Fields so curiously bedecke with Roses, and an innumerable multitude of delightful Flowers, not only pleasing the eye, but smell, that you may behold Nature contending with Art, and striving to equal, if not excel many Gardens in *England*: nay, did we know the vertue of all those Plants and Herbs growing there (which time may more discover) many are of opinion, and the Natives do affirm, that there is no disease common to the Countrey, but may be cured without Materials from other Nations.

There is several Navigable Rivers and Bays, which puts

puts into the North-side of *Long*-Island, but upon the South-side which joyns to the Sea, it is so fortified with bars of sands and shoales, that it is a sufficient defence against any enemy, yet the South-side is not without Brooks and Riverets, which empty themselves into the Sea; yea, you shall scarce travel a mile, but you shall meet with one of them whose Christal streams run so swift, that they purge themselves of such stinking mud and filth, which the standing or low-paced streams of most brooks and rivers westward of this Colony leave lying, and are by the Suns exhalation dissipated, the Air corrupted, and many Fevers and other distempers occasioned, not incident to this Colony: Neither do the Brooks and Riverets premised, give way to the Frost in Winter, or draught in Summer, but keep their course throughout the year.

These Rivers are very well furnished with Fish, as Bosse, Sheepsheads, Place, Pearch, Trouts, Eels, Turtles, and divers others.

The Island is plentifully stored with all sorts of *English* Cattel, Horses, Hogs, Sheep, Goats, &c. no place in the North of *America* better, which they can both raise and maintain, by reason of the large and spacious Medows or Marches wherewith it is furnished, the Island likewise producing excellent *English* grass, the seed of which was brought out of *England*, which they sometime mow twice a year.

For wilde Beasts there is Deer, Bear, Wolves, Foxes, Racoons, Otters, Musquashes and Skunks. Wild Fowl there is great store of, as Turkies, Heath-Hens, Quailes, Partridges, Pidgeons, Cranes, Geese

of several sorts, Brants, Ducks, Widgeon, Teal, and divers others: There is also the red Bird, with divers sorts of singing birds, whose chirping notes salute the ears of Travellers with an harmonious discord, and in every pond and brook green silken Frogs, who warbling forth their untun'd tunes strive to bear a part in this musick.

Towards the middle of *Long*-Island lyeth a plain sixteen miles long and four broad, upon which plain grows very fine grass, that makes exceeding good Hay, and is very good pasture for sheep or other Cattel; where you shall find neither stick nor stone to hinder the Horse heels, or endanger them in their Races, and once a year the best Horses in the Island are brought hither to try their swiftness, and the swiftest rewarded with a silver Cup, two being Annually procured for that purpose. There are two or three other small plains of about a mile square, which are no small benefit to those Towns which enjoy them.

Upon the South-side of *Long*-Island in the Winter, lie store of Whales and Crampasses, which the inhabitants begin with small boats to make a trade Catching to their no small benefit. Also an innumerable multitude of Seals, which make an excellent oyle; they lie all the Winter upon some broken Marshes and Beaches, or bars of sand before-mentioned, and might be easily got were there some skilful men would undertake it.

To say something of the *Indians*, there is now but few upon the Island, and those few no ways hurtful but rather serviceable to the *English*, and it is to be admired, how strangely they have decreast by the

Hand

Hand of God, since the *English* first setling of those parts; for since my time, where there were six towns, they are reduced to two small Villages, and it hath been generally observed, that where the *English* come to settle, a Divine Hand makes way for them, by removing or cutting off the *Indians*, either by Wars one with the other, or by some raging mortal Disease.

They live principally by Hunting, Fowling, and Fishing: their Wives being the Husbandmen to till the Land, and plant their corn.

The meat they live most upon is Fish, Fowl, and Venison; they eat likewise Polecats, Skunks, Racoon, Possum, Turtles, and the like.

They build small moveable Tents, which they remove two or three times a year, having their principal quarters where they plant their Corn: their Hunting quarters, and their Fishing quarters: Their Recreations are chiefly Foot-ball and Cards, at which they will play away all they have, excepting a Flap to cover their nakedness: They are great lovers of strong drink, yet do not care for drinking, unless they have enough to make themselves drunk; and if there be so many in their Company, that there is not sufficient to make them all drunk, they usually select so many out of their Company, proportionable to the quantity of drink, and the rest must be Spectators. And if any one chance to be drunk before he hath finisht his proportion, (which is ordinarily a quart of Brandy, Rum or Strong-waters) the rest will pour the rest of his part down his throat.

They

They often kill one another at these drunken Matches, which the friends of the murdered person, do revenge upon the Murderer unless he purchase his life with money, which they sometimes do: Their money is made of a Periwinkle shell of which there is black and white, made much like unto beads, and put upon strings.

For their worship which is diabolical, it is performed usually but once or twice a year, unless upon some extraordinary occasion, as upon making of War or the like; their usual time is about *Michaelmass*, when their corn is first ripe, the day being appointed by their chief Priest or pawaw; most of them go a hunting for venison; When they are all congregated, their priest tells them if he want money, there God will accept of no other offering, which the people beleeving, every one gives money according to their ability. The priest takes the money, and putting it into some dishes, sets them upon the top of their low flat-roofed houses, and falls to invocating their God to come and receive it, which with a many loud hallows and outcries, knocking the ground with sticks, and beating themselves, is performed by the priest, and seconded by the people.

After they have thus a while wearied themselves, the priest by his Conjuration brings in a devil amongst them, in the shape sometimes of a fowl, sometimes of a beast, and sometimes of a man, at which the people being amazed, not daring to stir, he improves the opportunity, steps out, and makes sure of the money, and then returns to lay the spirit, who in the mean time is sometimes gone, and takes some of the Company along with him: but if any *English* at such times do come amongst them, it puts a pe-

a period to their proceeding, and they will desire their absence, telling them their God will not come whilst they are there.

In their wars they fight no pitcht fields, but when they have notice of an enemies approach, they endeavor to secure their wives and children upon some Island, or in some thick swamp, and then with their guns and hatchets they way-lay their enemies, some lying behind one, some another, and it is a great fight where seven or eight is slain.

When any *Indian* dies amongst them, they bury him upright, sitting upon a seat, with his Gun, money, and such goods as he hath with him, that he may be furnished in the other world, which they conceive is Westward, where they shall have great store of Game for Hunting and live easie lives. At his Burial his neareſt Relations attend the Hearse with their faces painted black, and do visit the grave once or twice a day, where they send forth sad lamentations so long, till time hath wore the blackness off their faces, and afterwards every year once they view the grave, make a new mourning for him, trimming up of the Grave, not suffering of a Grass to grow by it: they fence their graves with a hedge, and cover the tops with Mats, to shelter them from the rain.

Any *Indian* being dead, his Name dies with him, no person daring ever after to mention his Name, it being not only a breach of their Law, but an abuse to his friends and relations present, as if it were done on purpose to renew their grief: And any other person whatsoever that is named after that name doth incontinently change his name, and takes

takes a new one, their names are not proper set names as among ſt Chriſtians, but every one invents a name to himſelf, which he likes beſt. Some calling themſelves *Rattle-ſnake*, *Skunk*, *Bucks-horn*, or the like: And if a perſon die, that his name is ſome word which is uſed in ſpeech, they likewiſe change that word, and invent ſome new one, which makes a great change and alteration in their language.

When any perſon is ſick, after ſome means uſed by his friends, every one pretending skill in Phyſick; that proving ineffectual, they ſend for a Pawaw or Prieſt, who ſitting down by the ſick perſon, without the leaſt enquiry after the diſtemper, waits for a gift, which he proportions his work accordingly to: that being received, he firſt begins with a low voice to call upon his God, calling ſometimes upon one, ſometimes on another, raiſing his voice higher and higher, beating of his naked breaſts and ſides, till the ſweat runneth down, and his breath is almoſt gone, then that little which is remaining, he evaporates upon the face of the ſick perſon three or four times together, and ſo takes his leave.

Their Marriages are performed without any Ceremony, the Match being firſt made by money. The ſum being agreed upon and given to the woman, it makes a conſummation of their Marriage, if I may ſo call it: After that, he keeps her during his pleaſure, and upon the leaſt diſlike turns her away and takes another: It is no offence for their married women to lie with another man, provided ſhe acquaint her husband, or ſome of her neareſt Relations with it, but if not, it is accounted ſuch a fault that they ſometimes puniſh it with death: An *Indian* may have two wives or more if he pleaſe; but it is not ſo much in uſe as it was ſince the *Engliſh* came amongſt them: they being ready in ſome meaſure

ſure to imitate the *Engliſh* in things both good and bad: any Maid before ſhe is married doth lie with whom ſhe pleaſe for money, without any ſcandal, or the leaſt aſperſion to be caſt upon her, it being ſo cuſtomary, and their laws tolerating of it. They are extraordinary charitable one to another, one having nothing to ſpare, but he freely imparts it to his friends, and whatſoever they get by gaming or any other way; they ſhare one to another, leaving themſelves commonly the leaſt ſhare.

At their *Cantica's* or dancing Matches, where all perſons that come are freely entertain'd, it being a Feſtival time: Their cuſtom is when they dance, every one but the Dancers to have a ſhort ſtick in their hand, and to knock the ground and ſing altogether, whilſt they that dance ſometimes act warlike poſtures, and then they come in painted for War with their faces black and red, or ſome all black, ſome all red, with ſome ſtreaks of white under their eyes, and ſo jump and leap up and down without any order, uttering many expreſſions of their intended valour. For other Dances they only ſhew what Antick tricks their ignorance will lead them to, wringing of their bodies and faces after a ſtrange manner, ſometimes jumping into the fire, ſometimes catching up a Fire-brand, and biting off a live coal, with many ſuch tricks, that will affright, if not pleaſe an *Engliſh* man to look upon them, reſembling rather a company of infernal Furies then men. When their King or *Sachem* ſits in Council, he hath a Company of armed men to guard his Perſon, great reſpect being ſhewen him by the People, which is principally manifeſted by their ſilence: After he hath declared the cauſe of their convention, he demands their opinion, ordering who ſhall begin: The perſon ordered to ſpeak, after he hath declared his minde, tells them he hath

done: no man ever interrupting any person in his speech, nor offering to speak, though he make never so many or long stops, till he says he hath no more to say: the Council having all declar'd their opinions, the King after some pause gives the definitive sentence, which is commonly seconded with a shout from the people, every one seeming to applaud, and manifest their Assent to what is determined: If any person be condemned to die, which is seldom, unless for Murder or Incest, the King himself goes out in person (for you must understand they have no prisons, and the guilty person flies into the Woods) where they go inquest of him, and having found him, the King shoots first, though at never such a distance, and then happy is the man can shoot him down, and cut off his *Long*, which they commonly wear, who for his pains is made some Captain, or other military Officer.

Their Cloathing is a yard and an half of broad Cloth, which is made for the *Indian* Trade, which they hang upon their shoulders; and half a yard of the same cloth, which being put betwixt their legs, and brought up before and behinde, and tied with a Girdle about their middle, hangs with a flap on each side: They wear no Hats, but commonly wear about their Heads a Snake's skin, or a Belt of their money, or a kind of a Ruff made with Deers hair, and died of a scarlet colour, which they esteem very rich.

They grease their bodies and hair very often, and paint their faces with several colours, as black, white, red, yellow, blew, &c. which they take great pride in, every one being painted in a several manner: Thus much for the Customs of the *Indians*.

Within

Within two Leagues of *New-York* lieth *Staten*-Island, it bears from *New York* West something Southerly: It is about twenty miles long, and four or five broad; it is most of it very good Land, full of Timber, and produceth all such commodities as Long-*Island* doth, besides Tin and store of Iron Oar, and the Calamine stone is said likewise to be found there: There is but one Town upon it consisting of *English* and *French*, but is capable of entertaining more inhabitants: betwixt this and Long *Island* is a large Bay, and is the coming in for all ships and vessels out of the Sea: On the North-side of this Island *After-skull* River puts into the main Land on the West-side, whereof is two or three Towns, but on the East-side but one. There is very great Marshes or Medows on both sides of it, excellent good Land, and good convenience for the setling of several Towns; there grows black Walnut and Locust, as their doth in *Virginia*, with mighty tall streight Timber, as good as any in the North of *America*: It produceth any Commoditie *Long*-Island doth.

Hudsons River runs by *New-York* Northward into the Countrey, toward the Head of which is seated *New-Albany*, a place of great Trade with the *Indians*, betwixt which and *New-York*, being above one hundred miles, is as good Corn-land as the World affords, enough to entertain Hundreds of Families, which in the time of the *Dutch*-Government of those parts could not be setled: For the *Indians*, excepting one place, called the *Sopers*, which was kept by a Garrison, but since the reducement of those parts under His Majesties obedience, and a Parent granted to his Royal Highness the Duke of *York*, which is about six years; since by the care and diligence of the Honourable

Coll *Nichol's* ſent thither Deputy to His Highneſs, ſuch a League of Peace was made, and Friendſhip concluded betwixt that Colony and the *Indians*, that they have not reſiſted or diſturbed any Chriſtians there, in the ſetling or peaceable poſſeſſing of any Lands with that Government, but every man hath ſate under his own Vine, and hath peaceably reapt and enjoyed the fruits of their own labours, which God continue.

Weſtward of *After-Kull* River before-mentioned, about 18 or 20 miles runs in *Raritan*-River Northward into the Countrey, ſome ſcore of miles, both ſides of which River is adorn'd with ſpacious Medows, enough to maintain thouſands of Cattel, the Wood-land is likewiſe very good for corn, and ſtor'd with wilde Beaſts, as Deer, and Elks, and an innumerable multitude of Fowl, as in other parts of the Countrey: This River is thought very capable for the erecting of ſeveral Towns and Villages on each ſide of it, no place in the North of *America* having better convenience for the maintaining of all ſorts of Cattel for Winter and Summer-food: upon this River is no town ſetled, but one at the mouth of it. Next this River Weſtward is a place called *Newaſons*, where is two or three Towns and Villages ſetled upon the Sea-ſide, but none betwixt that and *Delewer* Bay, which is about ſixty miles, all which is a rich Champain Countrey, free from ſtones, and indifferent level; ſtore of excellent good timber, and very well watered, having brooks or rivers ordinarily, one or more in every miles travel: The Countrey is full of Deer, Elks, Bear, and other Creatures, as in other parts of the Countrey, where you ſhall meet with no inhabitant in this journey, but a few *Indians*, where there is ſtately Oaks, whoſe broad-branched-tops ſerve for no other uſe, but to keep

keep off the Suns heat from the wilde Beasts of the Wilderness, where is grass as high as a mans middle, that serves for no other end except to maintain the Elks and Deer, who never devour a hundredth part of it, then to be burnt every Spring to make way for new. How many poor people in the world would think themselves happy, had they an Acre or two of Land, whilst here is hundreds, nay thousands of Acres, that would invite inhabitants.

Delewerbay the mouth of the River, lyeth about the Mid-way betwixt *New-York* and the *Capes* of *Virginia*: It is a very pleasant River and Countrey, but very few inhabitants, and them being mostly *Swedes*, *Dutch* and *Finns*: about sixty miles up the River is the principal Town called *New-Castle*, which is about 40 miles from *Mary-land*, and very good way to travel, either with horse or foot, the people are setled all along the west side sixty miles above *New-Castle*; the land is good for all sorts of *English* grain, and wanteth nothing but a good people to populate it, it being capable of entertaining many hundred families.

Some may admire, that these great and rich Tracts of land, lying so adjoyning to *New-England* and *Virginia*, should be no better inhabited, and that the richness of the soyle, the healthfulness of the Climate, and the like, should be no better a motive to induce people from both places to populate it.

To which I answer, that whilst it was under the *Dutch* Government, which hath been till within these six years; there was little encouragement for any *English*, both in respect of their safety from the *Indians*, the *Dutch* being almost always in danger of them; and their *Bever*-trade not admitting of a War, which would have been destructive to their trade,

trade, which was the main thing prosecuted by the *Dutch*. And secondly, the *Dutch* gave such bad Titles to Lands, together with their exacting of the Tenths of all which men produced off their Land, that did much hinder the populating of it; together with that general dislike the *English* have of living under another Government; but since the reducement of it there is several Towns of a considerable greatness begun and setled by people out of *New-England*, and every day more and more come to view and settle.

To give some satisfaction to people that shall be desirous to transport themselves thither, (the Countrey being capable of entertaining many thousands,) how and after what manner people live, and how Land may be procured, &c. I shall answer, that the usual way, is for a Company of people to joyn together, either enough to make a Town, or a lesser number; These go with the consent of the Governor, and view a Tract of Land, there being choice enough, and finding a place convenient for a Town, they return to the Governour, who upon their desire admits them into the Colony, and gives them a Grant or Patent for the said Land, for themselves and Associates. These persons being thus qualified, settle the place, and take in what inhabitants to themselves they shall see cause to admit of, till their Town be full; these Associates thus taken in have equal priviledges with themselves, and they make a division of the Land suitable to every mans occasions, no man being debarr'd of such quantities as he hath occasion for, the rest they let lie in common till they have occasion for a new division, never dividing their Pasture-land at all, which lies in common to the whole Town. The best Commodities for any to carry with them is Clothing, the Countrey being full

full of all sorts of Cattel, which they may furnish themselves withal at an easie rate, for any sorts of *English* Goods; as likewise Instruments for Husbandry and Building, with Nails, Hinges, Glass, and the like; For the manner how they get a livelihood, it is principally by Corn and Cattel, which will there fetch them any Commodities; likewise they sowe store of Flax, which they make every one Cloth of for their own wearing, as also woollen Cloth, and Linsey-woolsey, and had they more Tradesmen amongst them, they would in a little time live without the help of any other Countrey for their Clothing; For Tradesmen there is none but live happily there, as Carpenters, Blacksmiths, Masons, Tailors, Weavers, Shoomakers, Tanners, Brickmakers, and so any other Trade; them that have no Trade betake themselves to Husbandry, get Land of their own, and live exceeding well.

Thus have I briefly given you a Relation of *New-York*, with the places thereunto adjoyning; In which, if I have err'd, it is principally in not giving it its due commendation; for besides those earthly blessings where it is stor'd, Heaven hath not been wanting to open his Treasure, in sending down seasonable showres upon the Earth, blessing it with a sweet and pleasant Air, and a Continuation of such Influences as tend to the Health both of Man and Beast: and the Climate hath such an affinity with that of *England*, that it breeds ordinarily no alteration to those which remove thither; that the name of seasoning, which is common to some other Countreys hath never there been known; That I may say, and say truly, that if there be any terrestrial

terrestrial happiness to be had by people of all ranks, especially of an inferior rank, it must certainly be here: here any one may furnish himself with land, and live rent-free, yea, with such a quantity of land, that he may weary himself with walking over his fields of Corn, and all sorts of Grain: and let his stock of Cattel amount to some hundreds, he needs not fear their want of pasture in the Summer, or Fodder in the Winter, the Woods affording sufficient supply. For the Summer-season, where you have grass as high as a mans knees, nay, as high as his waste, interlaced with Pea-vines and other weeds that Cattel much delight in, as much as a man can press thorough; and these woods also every mile or half-mile are furnished with fresh ponds, brooks, or rivers, where all sorts of Cattel, during the heat of the day, do quench their thirst and cool themselves; these brooks and rivers being invironed of each side with several sorts of trees and Grape-vines, the Vines, Arbor-like, interchanging places and crossing these rivers, does shade and shelter them from the scorching beams of *Sols* fiery influence: Here those which Fortune hath frown'd upon in *England*, to deny them an inheritance amongst their Brethren, or such as by their utmost labors can scarcely procure a living, I say such may procure here inheritances of lands and possessions, stock themselves with all sorts of Cattel, enjoy the benefit of them whilst they live, and leave them to the benefit of their children when they die: Here you need not trouble the Shambles for meat, nor Bakers and Brewers for Beer and Bread, nor run to a Linnen-Draper for a supply, every one making their own Linnen, and a great part of their woollen-cloth for their ordinary wearing: And how prodigal, if I may so say, hath Nature been to furnish the Countrey with all sorts of wilde Beasts

and

and Fowle, which every one hath an intereſt in, and may hunt at his pleaſure; where beſides the pleaſure in hunting, he may furniſh his houſe with excellent fat Veniſon, Turkies, Geeſe, Heath-Hens, Cranes, Swans, Ducks, Pidgeons, and the like: and wearied with that, he may go a Fiſhing, where the Rivers are ſo furniſhed, that he may ſupply himſelf with Fiſh before he can leave off the Recreation: Where you may travel by Land upon the ſame Continent hundreds of miles, and paſſe thorough Towns and Villages, and never hear the leaſt complaint for want, nor hear any ask you for a farthing: there you may lodge in the fields and woods, travel from one end of the Countrey to another, with as much ſecurity as if you were lockt within your own Chamber; And if you chance to meet with an *Indian*-Town, they ſhall give you the beſt entertainment they have, and upon your deſire, direct you on your way: But that which adds happineſs to all the reſt, is the Healthfulneſs of the place, where many people in twenty years time never know what ſickneſs is: where they look upon it as a great mortality if two or three die out of a town in a years time; where beſides the ſweetneſs of the Air, the Countrey it ſelf ſends forth ſuch a fragrant ſmell, that it may be perceived at Sea before they can make the Land: where no evil fog or vapour doth no ſooner appear, but a North-weſt or Weſterly winde doth immediately diſſolve it, and drive it away: What ſhall I ſay more? you ſhall ſcarce ſee a houſe, but the South-ſide is begirt with Hives of Bees, which increaſe after an incredible manner: That I muſt needs ſay, that if there be any terreſtrial *Canaan*, 'tis ſurely here, where the Land floweth with milk and honey. The inhabitants are bleſt with Peace and plenty, bleſſed in their Countrey, bleſſed in their Fields, bleſſed in the Fruit of

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their bodies, in the fruit of their grounds, in the increase of their Cattel, Horses and Sheep, blessed in their Basket, and in their Store; In a word, blessed in whatsoever they take in hand, or go about, the Earth yieldieg plentiful increase to all their painful labours,

Were it not to avoid prolixity I could say a great deal more, and yet say too little, how free are those parts of the world from that pride and oppression, with their miserable effects, which many, nay almost all parts of the world are troubled, with being ignorant of that pomp and bravery which aspiring Humours are servants to, and striving after almost every where: where a Waggon or Cart gives as good content as a Coach; and a piece of their home-made Cloth, better then the finest Lawns or richest Silks: and though their low-roofed houses may seem to shut their doors against pride and luxury, yet how do they stand wide open to let charity in and out, either to assist each other, or relieve a stranger, and the distance of place from other Nations, doth secure them from the envious frowns of ill-affected Neighbours, and the troubles which usually arise thence.

Now to conclude, its possible some may say, what needs a Relation of a place of so long standing as *New York* hath been? In answer to which I have said something before, as to satisfie the desires of many that never had any Relation of it. Secondly, though it hath been long setled, yet but lately reduced to his Majesties obedience, and by that means but new or unknown to the *English*; Else certainly those great number of Furs, that have been lately transported from thence into *Holland* had never past the hands of our *English* Furriers: Thirdly, never any Relation before was published to my knowledge, and the

the place being capable of entertaining so great a number of inhabitants, where they may with Gods blessing, and their own industry, live as happily as any people in the world. A true Relation was necessary, not only for the encouragement of many that have a desire to remove themselves, but for the satisfaction of others that would make a trade thither.

FINIS.

The Accurate Accomptant *or* London-Merchant, *Containing an* Analysis *for Instructions and Directions for a Methodical keeping* Merchants Accompts, *by way of Debitor and Creditor, very useful for all Merchants or others, that desire to learn or teach the Exact Method of keeping* Merchants Accompts, *by* Thomas Brown *Accomptant*; *To be sold by* John Hancock, *at the first shop in* Popes Head Alley, *at the sign of the Three Bibles in* Cornhil, 1670.

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